

and other flowers from around the world, and delivered more than 1,500 centerpieces, podium pieces and stage arrangements.

Mr. Speaker, I'd specifically like to commend the efforts of my constituents John and Ida Muller. For the last thirty years, John and Ida have owned and operated Daylight Nursery in Half Moon Bay, California. Their efforts during the Inauguration are consistent with their spirit of giving, which is unlimited. They are constantly giving to their community, often hosting disabled children at their nursery. John Muller serves on the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Control Board and was recently named Chairman.

Mr. Speaker, John and Eda Muller are two of the finest human beings that I've ever had the privilege of knowing and it is a great privilege to represent them. We owe all the volunteers from the Society of American Florists our deepest gratitude for their selfless efforts during the Inauguration. Because of them, the words 'America the Beautiful' have ever more meaning for us all!

IN HONOR OF DARIEN'S 2000
CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

HON. JUDY BIGGERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2001

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Dee Levenson, the 2000 Citizen of the Year for Darien, IL.

The city of Darien is at the heart of Illinois' 13th Congressional District. It is a central crossroads for a growing region. And its residents continue to work hard to live up to the city's understated motto—"a nice place to live."

Sometimes, though, that is a tall order. We all know that civic involvement is declining. Even the pillars of our communities, such as the Parent Teachers Association and the Boy Scouts, are experiencing declining rates of participation.

But we also know that there are those in our communities that set a shining example to which we all should aspire. Dee Levenson is one of those people.

When one looks at all that Dee has done for Darien, it becomes clear why she was selected as Darien's 2000 Citizen of the Year. She helped found the Darien Women's Club. She assisted in organizing the Darien Chamber of Commerce. She served on the Darienfest committee for several years, including two as its cochairperson. She then served as chairperson of Darien Day for 2 years as well.

In between all of that, Dee somehow found time to serve on the committee for the first Darien Bookmobile, was active in the Lace School PTA, was a Cub Scout leader, and coowned and operated a women's apparel store in Darien. She also served as a cochairman for the first Cystic Fibrosis drive in the area and helped her husband, Ron, launch the Darien Lion's Club needy family drive.

However, I could not sum up what Dee has meant to Darien better than what her own neighbors said about her.

They wrote: "Dee exemplifies what good citizenship is. Her strong commitment to home, family, community, and the less fortunate

make her an outstanding candidate for Citizen of the Year."

I could not agree more. Dee is the kind of person who keeps our communities vibrant and alive. Congratulations to Dee Levenson, Darien's 2000 Citizen of the Year. She has made Darien much more than a "nice place to live."

THE OVARIAN CANCER RESEARCH
AND INFORMATION AMEND-
MENTS OF 2001

HON. PATSY T. MINK

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2001

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to announce that I am today introducing the Ovarian Cancer and Research Amendments of 2001. I am proud to be joined by 56 original co-sponsors and would like to invite the rest of my colleagues to join me in support of the bill.

Ovarian cancer is the most lethal cancer of the female reproductive system, primarily because it is so difficult to detect in its early stages. While survival rates are quite high if the disease is found before it spread beyond the ovaries, the five-year survival rate drops to 28% for women who are diagnosed and treated in the later stages of the disease. Only 25% of ovarian cancer cases are caught in the earliest stages.

The Ovarian Cancer and Research Amendments of 2001 has three components.

First, it authorizes \$150 million for ovarian cancer research: one-half to be spent on basic cancer research and one-half on clinical trials and treatment. The bill requires that priority be given to developing a test for the early detection of ovarian cancer; research to identify precursor lesions and to determine the manner in which benign conditions progress to malignant status; and research to determine the relationship between ovarian cancer and endometriosis. Moreover, the bill requires that appropriate counseling be provided to women participating in clinical trials.

Second, the bill provides for a comprehensive education program to provide information to patients and the public on screening procedures, the genetic basis to ovarian cancer, factors that increase the risk of getting ovarian cancer; and any new treatments for ovarian cancer.

Finally, it requires that the National Cancer Advisory Board include at least one individual who is at high risk of developing ovarian cancer.

I hope all my colleagues will join me in supporting this worthy cause and help to give women a fighting chance against ovarian cancer.

INTRODUCTION OF INTER-
NATIONAL PRESCRIPTION DRUG
PRICING PARITY RESOLUTION

HON. JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2001

Mr. BALDACCI. Mr. Speaker, our nation is facing a growing crisis—the high cost of pre-

scription drugs. The threat is greatest to our elderly who rely most heavily on prescription medications to maintain their health.

The scientific wonders of newly-developed life-saving drugs mean nothing if the people who need these medications cannot afford them.

Within our country, citizens pay widely varying prices for the same drugs. We know, for example, that seniors who rely on Medicare actually pay the highest prices for prescription drugs. We can and should work to provide a voluntary, universally-available prescription drug benefit under Medicare.

However, what I find most unconscionable is the difference in price between identical drugs sold in the United States and in our neighboring countries. Studies show that U.S. drug manufacturers often charge Americans more for their products than they do citizens of other countries. The average price differential is about 33 percent, though for certain drugs it can be much greater. Apparently, American pharmaceutical companies are happy to utilize taxpayer funded research to develop new drugs and then turn around and sell the resulting medicines to Americans at premium prices, while selling them abroad at reduced rates. Talk about fleecing of America.

Citizens of my state and many other border states have resorted to boarding busses to visit doctors and pharmacies in Canada in order to save money on their prescriptions. America is the greatest nation in the world, yet Maine people are forced to travel to Canada to obtain life-saving medicines at a price they can afford. This is simply wrong.

And yet, currently they have no alternative. Congress must seize this opportunity to make a real difference in the health and welfare of all Americans by ensuring that our citizens have affordable access to prescription drugs. We must ensure that Americans can purchase medications at prices comparable to those that citizens of other countries pay.

The need for this action is clear. Today I am reintroducing, along with Representative JO ANN EMERSON, a resolution that makes clear Congress' understanding of the high priority this issue must hold. It affirms our opposition to cross-border prescription drug price disparities and our commitment to address this issue in a meaningful way. I hope that my colleagues will join us in recognizing the seriousness of this issue, and taking action to help those most in need of affordable medications.

COMMENDING THE PREVENTION
OF A TRAGEDY AT DE ANZA
COLLEGE

HON. MIKE HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2001

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my deepest appreciation for the excellent investigative work of the San Jose Police Department and the actions of an extraordinary citizen. Yesterday, through the thoughtful work of our law enforcement and a concerned citizen who chose not to "look the other way", a tragedy liken to Columbine was averted.

A young man, whose motives are not yet fully understood, was apprehended with a